

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 L-03 SS-15 XMB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9827

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 2726

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON, BL

SUBJ: TRAVEL OF MINISTER FINANCE BEDREGAL

REF: STATE 84802

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH MINISTRY OF FINANCE PERSONNEL IT WAS LEARNED THAT AFTER THE JAMAICA IDB CONFERENCE, MINFIN BEDREGAL, CENTRAL BANK MANAGER VIZCARRA, AND NESTOR SAINZ, ECONOMIC ADVISOR TO THE MINISTER, PLAN TO VISIT PARIS, NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON. APPARENT INTENT OF THE VISIT TO WASHINGTON IS TO DISCUSS LOAN MATTERS WITH THE IBRD AND IDB. WE UNDERSTAND BEDREGAL WILL GO TO PARIS IMMEDIATELY AFTER IDB MEETING, ACCOMPANIED BY LUIS VIZCARRA, AND SAINZ TO DISCUSS AND POSSIBLY SIGN CONTRACT WITH PETROL CHEMIE FOR FURFURAL PROJECT. WE HAVE INDICATIONS THAT BEDREGAL WILL DISCUSS WITH PRINCIPALLY NON- BANK SOURCES WHO HAVE OFFERED GOB " WINDOW- DRESSING" AND HIGH COST LOANS, LINES OF CREDIT AND POSSIBLE PROJECT FINANCING IN HIS VISIT TO NEW YORK. IT IS PROBABLE THAT PROJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED NOT IDB OR IBRD FUNDED. LINES OF CREDIT MAY BE CONSIDERED POSSIBLE WAY FUNDING LOCAL CURRENCY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR IDB/ IBRD PROJECTS. WE UNDERSTAND NON IBRD/ IDB PROJECTS RATHER MARGINAL AND CAN ONLY HOPE MINFIN DOES NOT ACCEPT HIGH COST SCHEMES TO MEET LOCAL CURRENCY CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS.

2. APPEARS LIKELY THAT BEDREGAL WILL HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH IMF IN ADDITION TO IBRD AND IDB. SAINZ DID NOT INDICATE WHETHER BEDREGAL WOULD CALL ON DEPARTMENT. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, CALL ON
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DEPARTMENT/ AID/ W LIKELY, ESPECIALLY IF PRECEDING DISCIPLE OUTSIDE GOVT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR U. S. INTERESTS. WE WOULD HAVE IN MIND MEETING OF 10-20 PEOPLE -- NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS OR EDITORS, BUSINESS GROUPS, OPPOSITION LEADERS, STUDENTS, OR WHATEVER COMPOSITION YOU THINK BEST. IDEA IS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON BACKGROUND BASIS WITH SMALL INFLUENTIAL GROUP. WE WOULD NOT WANT THIS TO BECOME A COCKTAIL PARTY.

6. PARTICIPANTS IN MEETINGS. SUBJECT TO WISHES OF CHIEF OF STATE ON NATURE OF MEETING, SECTY WOULD ORDINARILY WISH TO BE ACCOMPANIED ONLY BY AMB. AND ASST. SECTY KUBISCH (WITH AMB. RESPONSIBLE FOR REPORTING CABLE). IN MEETINGS WITH FONMIN SECTY WILL ORDINARILY WISH TO HAVE FEW MINUTES PRIVATE CONVERSATION. REST OF TIME WOULD INCLUDE AMB. AND SEVERAL MEMBERS OF SECTY' S PARTY. BECAUSE OF NUMBERS INVOLVED WE WILL ORDINARILY PROVIDE THE REPORTING OFFICER. WE WILL LET YOU KNOW OUR PREFERRED COMPOSITION FOR MEETINGS WITH FM LATER, BUT GENERALLY THERE SHOULD NOT BE MORE AMERICANS THAN FOREIGNERS IN MEETING. DEPENDENT UPON SCHEDULING AND TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS, PERIOD OF SECTY' S MEETING WITH CHIEF OF STATE MIGHT BE GOOD TIME FOR SEPARATE CASEY APPOINTMENT WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS ON ECONOMIC MATTERS. WHERE DESIRABLE PERIOD OF SECTY- FONMIN MTG CAN ALSO BE USED.

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7. SOCIAL OCCASIONS. SECTY WISHES TRIP TO HAVE BUSINESS CHARACTER AND TO MINIMIZE TIME DEVOTED TO SOCIAL OCCASIONS. WISHES TO AVOID RECEPTIONS WHEREVER POSSIBLE. SPECIAL GUIDANCE ON MEALS GIVEN IN SEPARATE TELEGRAM. NET INTENT IS TO KEEP OFFICIAL MEALS LIMITED TO ONE AT EACH STOP EXCEPT IN LIMA, BOGOTA, AND BRASILIA. DO NOT SCHEDULE BREAKFAST MEETINGS.

8. PUBLIC OPINION EVENTS. WE WOULD LIKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE CEREMONIAL OR SIGHTSEEING EVENT THAT WOULD HELP GENERATE FAVORABLE LOCAL PUBLICITY.

9. ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES. WHERE ARRIVAL AND/ OR DEPARTURE STATEMENTS ARE EXPECTED OR USEFUL POSTS SHOULD PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO ASSURING PHYSICAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE CONDUCIVE TO BEST MEDIA-- PARTICULARLY TELEVISION-- PRESENTATION. IN GENERAL STANDING LECTERN AND MIKES INSIDE BUILDING OR OTHERWISE AWAY FROM AIRPLANE NOISE IS DESIRABLE. WE WILL GENERALLY MAKE DECISIONS ON WHETHER TO MAKE ARRIVAL STATEMENT ONLY SHORTLY BEFORE ARRIVAL AND FOR DEPARTURE WHILE IN THE COUNTRY.

10. PRESS RELATIONS. WE HOPE POSTS WILL FIND ADVANCE TRIP BY YALE NEWMAN USEFUL AND WILL GIVE HIM CLOSE ATTENTION AND COOPERATION. IN GENERAL SECTY WILL NOT HOLD PRESS CONFERENCES ON TRIP, AS WE FIND ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE STATEMENTS AND QUESTIONS ORDINARILY SUFFICIENT. WHERE POSTS THINK ONE PARTICULARLY DESIRABLE PLEASE LET US KNOW. WE WOULD NOT ORDINARILY PLAN TO MAKE DECISION TO HAVE CONFERENCE UNTIL ARRIVAL AT POST.

11. COMMUNIQUE. SECTY'S PRACTICE ON FOREIGN VISITS HAS BEEN NOT TO WORK OUT COMMUNIQUE, AS WE FIND EFFORT TO PRODUCE THEM DIVERTS US FROM PRODUCTIVE CONCENTRATION ON ISSUES AT HAND. WHERE ADVANCES IN RELATIONS NEED TO BE REGISTERED THIS CAN BE DONE THROUGH COORDINATED PRESS STATEMENTS.

12. STAFF TIME. PERIOD BETWEEN 0900 AND 0930 SHOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

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RESERVED FOR SECTY'S TELEGRAM AND STAFF TIME WITH OWN PARTY, AND FIRST OCCASION WITH HOST GOVERNMENT SHOULD ORDINARILY NOT START BEFORE 10 A. M.

13. EMBASSY CONTACTS. EMBASSIES (OTHER THAN NICARAGUA AND MEXICO) CAN TENTATIVELY SCHEDULE 5 TO 10 MINUTE PERIOD WHEN SECTY WOULD SPEAK BRIEFLY TO EMBASSY PERSONNEL IF THEY BELIEVE THIS WOULD BE HELPFUL. CONVENIENT SUCH POINT MIGHT BE AFTER MORNING STAFF TIME. ANY SUCH ARRANGEMENTS WILL HAVE TO BE LEFT FLEXIBLE FOR FINAL DECISION WHILE IN COUNTRY DEPENDING UPON NEEDS OF GOVERNMENT AND SECTY'S PARTY.

14. DRESS. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST OF ANY OCCASIONS REQUIRING BLACK TIE (AND WHETHER BLACK OR WHITE COAT). ALSO TYPE OF DRESS EXPECTED OF LADIES FOR SUCH OCCASIONS.

15. BRIEFINGS. WE WILL WANT DCM FROM EACH POST TO MEET US AT PRECEDING STOP TO HELP BRIEF SECTY IN PLANE ON WAY IN.

16. GIFTS. SECTY WILL PLAN ON GIFT EXCHANGES WITH CHIEF OF STATE OR HEAD OF GOVT AND FONMIN. IF YOU HAVE ANY SPECIAL SUGGESTIONS OR BELIEVE HE SHOULD EXCHANGE GIFTS WITH OTHERS PLEASE TRANSMIT THEM SOONEST. SEPTTEL WILL FOLLOW REGARDING EXCHANGE ARRANGEMENTS. ROGERS

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